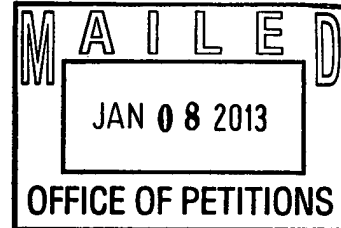




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Louis Ryles
713 Esplanade
Mornington
Victoria BC 3931 CANADA



In re Patent No. 6,077,422 :
Issue Date: 06/20/2000 : LETTER
Application No. 08/850,922 :
Filed: 05/02/1997 :
Title: LIQUID FILTERING APPARATUS :

This is in response to the communication filed August 7, 2012, regarding the mailing of the Notice of Patent Expiration on July 16, 2012.

The patent issued on June 20, 2000. On December 14, 2003, patentee paid the 3.5-year maintenance. On November 2, 2007, patentee paid the 7.5-year maintenance fee. Patentee could have paid the 11.5-year maintenance fee during the period from June 20, 2011 through December 20, 2011, or with a surcharge during the period from December 21, 2011 through June 20, 2012. Patentee failed to pay the 11.5 year maintenance fee within the stated time period. Accordingly, the patent expired on June 21, 2012.

If patentee desires to reinstate the above-identified expired patent, patentee must submit: (1) a petition to accept the delayed payment of the maintenance fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.378; (2) the maintenance fee due at 11.5 years; and (3) a surcharge for late payment of the maintenance fee.

Patentee may wish to filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), requesting that the Office accept the unintentionally delayed payment of the 11-5 year maintenance fee. A petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c) to accept an unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee must be filed within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in § 1.362(e) (i.e. on or before June 20, 2014) and include:

- (1) payment of the required maintenance fee due at 11.5 years set forth in § 1.20(g) (the current small entity amount is \$2,405.00);¹

¹ It is noted that patentee must pay the amount of the fee in effect on the day of payment in accordance with the Fee Schedule.

- (2) payment of the surcharge set forth in § 1.20(i)(2); (currently \$1,640.00), and;
- (3) a statement that the delay in payment of the maintenance fee was unintentional.

The appropriate form is enclosed for patentee's convenience.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By mail: Mail Stop Petition
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By FAX: (571) 273-8300
 Attn: Office of Petitions

By hand: Customer Services Window
 Randolph Building
 401 Dulany Street
 Alexandria, VA 22314

Correspondence may also be submitted electronically via EFS-Web.

Telephone inquiries regarding this decision may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3211.

/Christina Tartera Donnell/

Christina Tartera Donnell
Senior Petitions Attorney
Office of Petitions

Enclosure: Form PTO/SB/66